



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

July 13, 2005

Drew Smith, Treasurer
Democratic Party of Arkansas
1300 West Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201

Response Due Date:
August 12, 2005

Identification Number: C00024372

Reference: May Monthly Report (4/1/05 – 4/30/05)

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-The totals listed on Lines 11(a)(i) and 11(a)(ii), Column B of the Detailed Summary Page appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. When an individual's aggregate exceeds the \$200 threshold, the amount should not be deducted from the Column B figure for Line 11(a)(ii). Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Schedule A supporting Line(s) 11(c) of your report discloses a receipt(s) from "Snyder for Congress," "Friends of Blanche Lincoln Campaign," "Marion Berry For Congress," and "Mike Ross for Congress Committee" which requires further clarification. For example, if this activity represents a transfer of funds, please indicate "transfer" on Schedule A supporting Line 11(c) of your report. If this activity represents a reimbursement for services provided to this committee, please indicate this on Schedule A supporting Line 15 of your report. Please amend your report to clarify the type of activity this receipt(s) represents.

-Your report discloses a transfer(s) for "replenish cash for admin expenses" and "Replenish admin cash" to the "Democratic Party – Non Federal

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Account" which appears to be a non-federal account of your committee. 11 CFR §§106.6 and 106.7 prohibits a committee's federal account from reimbursing its non-federal account for shared allocable expenses. Also, the non-federal account is prohibited from paying the federal account's share of these expenses. These types of costs must be paid according to the allocation ratio derived from the appropriate method on Schedule H1.

If the transfer(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If your non-federal account has paid any expenditures which should have been allocated, you are advised to correct any non-compliance with 11 CFR §§106.6 and 106.7 and establish procedures to insure future compliance with allocation regulations.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses \$3,000.00 in payments for "budget consulting" to individuals. Please clarify whether these individuals are employees of your committee. You are advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(2), salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time in a given month on Federal election activity or activities in connection with a Federal election must not be allocated between or among federal, non-federal and Levin accounts. Rather, only federal funds may be used. Any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal or Levin account for salary and wage payments is not permissible and must be returned. Please provide clarification regarding these payments.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for "photo developing" and "photos and snacks." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, payment to the original vendors must be itemized as memo entries regardless of amount. Each memo entry must include the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3

-Please clarify all expenditures made for "Band for ASDC banquet," "beverages for ASDC meeting," "cake for ASDC meeting," "dinner for ASDC members," "dinner for ASDC people," "informations calls about ASDC meeting," "luncheon for ASDC members," "name tags for ASDC

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meeting," "note cards for ASDC meeting," and "parking for ASDC meeting," "refreshments for ASDC Meeting" on Schedule(s) H4. If a portion or all of these expenditures were made on behalf of specifically identified federal candidates, this amount should be disclosed on Schedules B, E, or F supporting Lines 23, 24, or 25 and include the amount, name, address and office sought by each candidate. 11 CFR §§104.3(b) and 106.1

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses payments to "Runaway Planet," "Meadows, Donell," "Community Bakery," "Flying Fish," "Mr. Mason's Pit BBQ," "Winning Connection," "Little Rock Club," "Discount Trophies," "State Capitol Gift Shop," "Rowett, Michael," and "Kroger," which are categorized as Administrative expenses; however, the purposes of disbursement disclosed are "Band for ASDC banquet," "beverages for ASDC meeting," "cake for ASDC meeting," "dinner for ASDC members," "dinner for ASDC people," "informations calls about ASDC meeting," "luncheon for ASDC members," "name tags for ASDC meeting," "note cards for ASDC meeting," and "parking for ASDC meeting," "refreshments for ASDC Meeting." Please be advised that payments made for your committee's fundraising activities must be allocated according to the funds received method and the ratio reflected on Schedule H2. Please amend your report to clarify the appropriate category for this activity or provide clarifying information regarding this apparent discrepancy.

-On Schedule H4, your allocated activity or event year-to-date total calculations for the Administrative category are incorrect. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for administrative, voter drive, exempt activity costs and expenses for public communications made by PACs referencing only political parties are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for each separate category. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for fundraising and direct candidate support activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a category or event to the previous event year-to-date total for that category or event. This running event year-to-date total should be disclosed after each disbursement is listed. Please amend your report by providing the correct event year-to-date totals.

-Schedule H4 of your report disclose several entries which include the acronyms "DPA" and "ASDC." Please be advised that when referencing an organization in a purpose, abbreviating the name of the organization so it is unrecognizable, or using an indistinguishable acronym is inadequate. Please provide further clarification regarding these initials in order to better

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clarify the public record. For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1148.

Sincerely,



Brandis L. Zehr
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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